

REMARKS

With this response, Applicants have amended claims 1-3, 5-8, 15-16, 42-44, 49, and 58, amended claims 715 and 16 into independent format, added no new claims, and canceled no additional claims such that claims 1-49 and 54-58 are presently pending. Reconsideration and allowance of claim 1-49 and 54-58 is therefore respectfully requested. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and remarks that follow

STATUS OF CLAIMS

- 1) Claim 58 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as lacking antecedent basis for the term “housing;”
- 2) Claims 1, 2, 6, 8, 17, 18, 42-44, and 49 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hill, U.S. Patent No. 5,794,911;
- 3) Claim 58 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112;
- 4) Claims 3-5, 7, 15, 16, and 19-24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form; and
- 5) Claims 9-14, 25-41, 43-48, and 50-57 are allowed.

RESPONSE TO CLAIM OBJECTION(S)

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 58 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 because Applicants have amended it to provide proper antecedent basis for the “housing” claim element.

ARGUMENTS SUPPORTING PATENTABILITY

Claim 1 is believed presented in condition for allowance as it has been amended by adding limitations previously found in dependent claim 3 (along with intervening limitations recited in claim 2), a claim indicated by the examiner as reciting allowable subject matter. Dependent claims 2 and 3 have been amended by cancelling those limitations incorporated into

claim 1 and by adding other limitations previously found in other claims such that Applicants believe that no new matter has been added, no new issues have been raised and no additional searching is required. Dependent claims 5 and 6 have been amended to conform limitations recited in each to those recited in claim 1 and to better define Applicants' invention.

Claim 7, a claim indicated as reciting allowable subject matter, has been amended into independent form by adding limitations recited in independent claim 1. As such, claim 7 is believed to be presented in condition for allowance and its allowance is respectfully requested. Dependent claim 8 has been amended, not for the purposes of distinguishing over the prior art, but to change its dependency to that of independent claim 7 and to better define Applicants' invention.

Claims 15 and 16, each indicated as reciting allowable subject matter, have each been amended into independent form by adding limitations found in independent claim 1. As such, claims 15 and 16 are both believed to be presented in condition for allowance and allowance of each claim is respectfully requested.

Independent claim 17 is believed presented in condition for allowance because Hill, U.S. Patent No. 5,794,911, fails to disclose, teach or otherwise suggest a truncated roller that is rotatable and that is in communication with the base or the seat supporting platform (whichever component does not carry the suspension arrangement). The claim element "roller" is used in accordance with its ordinary, dictionary definition of a "cylinder, wheel, caster or the like" Applicants' respectfully submit that the cam-shaped pulley 40 disclosed in Hill does not correspond to a roller and is not rotatable as it is fixed to a scissors arm. For at least these reasons, claim 17 is believed in condition for allowance and its allowance is respectfully requested.

Dependent claim 18 is believed presented in condition for allowance without amendment as Hill fails to disclose, teach or suggest a roller-rotation limiting abutment that limits truncated roller rotation during suspension operation. In addition, claim 18 is also believed allowable as it depends from independent claim 17, a claim itself believed presented in condition for allowance. For at least these reasons, claim 18 is believed in condition for allowance and its allowance is respectfully requested.

Claim 42 has been amended by adding limitations previously recited in other claims and in a manner that Applicants' respectfully submit places this claim in condition for allowance. Hill fails to disclose, teach or suggest a suspension module that is mountable to either the base or the seat supporting platform without any weld. For at least these reasons, claim 42 is believed presented in condition for allowance and its allowance is respectfully requested.

Claim 43 is also believed presented in condition for allowance because Hill fails to disclose, teach or suggest a preassembled suspension module, let alone a preassembled suspension module having the rest of the limitations recited in this claim. For at least this reason, claim 43 is believed presented in condition for allowance and its allowance is respectfully requested.

Claim 44 is also believed presented in condition for allowance because Hill fails to disclose, teach or suggest a suspension arrangement that includes a bell crank arm carrying a truncated roller that is capable of rotating relative to the bell crank arm. For at least this reason, claim 44 is believed presented in condition for allowance and its allowance is respectfully requested.

Claim 49 is also believed presented in condition for allowance because Hill fails to disclose, teach or suggest a suspension module that includes a housing that is fixable to part of the vehicle seat suspension with the module having biasing elements displaceable relative to the housing and a bell crank suspension arm pivotally carried by the housing. For at least this reason, claim 49 is believed presented in condition for allowance and its allowance is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

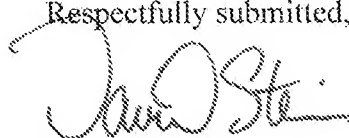
The currently amended and presently pending claims set forth above are all believed presented in condition for allowance and their allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant hereby respectfully requests a one-month extension of time and hereby authorizes the Director to charge \$720 to Deposit Account No. 50-1170 of which \$120 is allotted to pay for the one-month extension for a large entity and \$600 is allotted for three additional independent claims beyond the number of independent claims previously presented.

No other fees are believed to be due with the submission of this communication. Nevertheless, the Director is authorized to direct any additional fees associated with this or any other communication, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1170.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the attending to of which would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number appearing below.

Respectfully submitted,



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